Officers on formal/informal deputation in CEA

*60. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many officers are working on formal/ informal deputation in C.E.A. since long i.e. more than fifteen years;

(b) if so, the number of such officers with details of period since when they are working on such deputation in each Regional Electricity Board and reasons for their long stay;

(c) whether there is any approval of Ministry of Power to have them on such long period of deputation; if not, whether Audit Department raised any objection in this regard; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to send them back to their parent departments?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Four officers are working in Northern Regional Electricity Board for more than 15 years. The details are as under:—

1. One additional Superintending Engineer of Punjab State Electricity Board is working in Northern Regional Electricity Board, New Delhi since June, 1983.

2. One Upper Division Clerk of Punjab State Electricity Board is working in Northern Regional Electricity Board, New Delhi since January, 1984.

3. One Upper Division Clerk of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board working in Northern Regional Electricity Board, New Delhi since, August, 1985.

4. One Upper Division Clerk of Uttar Haryana Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. (Earlier Haryana State Electricity Board) is working in Northern Regional Electricity Board, New Delhi since March, 1986.

The officers from State Electricity Boards deployed to work in the Regional Electricity Boards are engaged in the preparation and finalisation of Regional Energy Accounts. Their pay and allowances are met by the parent organization.

(c) Approval of the Ministry of Power has not been taken. Regional Electricity Boards are subordinate offices of Central Electricity Authority. Comptroller and Auditor General has raised objection against such retention of officers from State Electricity Boards working in Regional Electricity Board.

(d) Central Electricity Authority is being directed to discontinue this arrangement with immediate effect.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Coal theft in coal mines

†311. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal theft is being committed on large scale in coal mines in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any concrete step to stop this theft; and

(c) if so, by when and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) On the basis of available evidence, it can not be said that coal theft is being committed on a large scale from coal mines in the country.

(b) and (c) The following steps are being taken by coal producing subsidiaries of CIL to prevent theft or pilferage of coal:—

(i) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal, and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.